Luke 5

1-11 - Recruiting fishermen

1-3 – What are the tools you see around you to use?

4-5 – Why did Jesus want to go fishing with these men? Why did Simon agree to go fishing?

6-10 – Who would know a real fish story better than fishermen? Who might we ignore advice from because we think we know more than they do?

10-11 – Why would these men be ready to leave everything and follow Jesus?

12-15 - healing a leper

12 - What was this man's need and what was he doing about it?

13 - What did Jesus do to meet the need?

14-15 – What did Jesus ask the man to do? Why? What did meeting this need do to Jesus' life?

17-26 - four men bring a friend

The religious leaders wouldn't let the crippled man in, but they couldn't wait to let him out! How do we prevent people from having Jesus meet their need?

What kinds of needs does Jesus meet? Why? Do we have a one-sided approach to meeting needs?

Has God enabled you to do remarkable things?

27-39 - the tax collector

Who should you associate with? Why?

33-34 – When should we withdraw, fast, and pray? When should we be building and enjoying relationships and celebrations?

36-39 – What do these verses say about change?

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE/STORY: Luke 5:27-32 - Jesus calls Levi; Levi hosts a banquet for Jesus

also Matt 9:9-12, Mark 2:13-17

READ the scripture, stopping to make note of ALL of the following:

THINGS/NOUNS: tax collector (IRS), Levi (jeans), tax booth (toll booth),

banquet, large crowd, pharisees, teachers,

ACTIONS: follow me, eating at a banquet,

IDEAS: "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?", "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.", "I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

READ the scripture, making notes of amazing thoughts & questions as you go. How do we deal with customs foreign to those we were raised with? What about immigrants? How do we socialize with or minister to people who have sinful lifestyles/actions?

What is the LESSON THEME, or GOAL that you want the kids to learn? Accepting takes people the way they are. Jesus accepted tax collectors and sinners. We can accept others because Jesus accepts us.

MEMORY VERSE:

"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God." Romans 15:7

GAMES:

Follow the leader

KEY PHRASES:

tax collector - What would be a "hated" legal job/occupation in our time? "I love you" means "I do what's best for you"

STORY TELLING STYLE: (question/answer, drama, puppet, lecture, audience participation, reading a book, etc.)

Any modern day discrimination stories? How about James 2:2-3? Is this how we are to be as a church?

CRAFTS:

Make a welcome poster.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

Make sure to talk about any "negative" comments made about others. Are the comments appropriate?

Visit a restaurant or gathering where you will be "out of place" so you can practice your acceptance manners.